



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 16 October 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
16 OCTOBER 1967

1. Hong Kong

The violence of the past two days indicates that the more moderate Communist leaders in the colony are increasingly hard put to keep the militants in line. This latest terrorism--four killed and some 50 wounded since Friday--is largely the work of the Communist labor unions. Their leaders have been in conflict with Communists in commercial circles who want to carry on a long-term political struggle instead.

Peking has yet to comment on these latest incidents.

2. Congo

Rebel leader Schramme's backers in Angola have stepped up their efforts to mount a military operation against Kinshasa.

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The ability of the plotters to mount such an incursion is still questionable, but if it does get under way, Mobutu will have real trouble stopping it.

3. Nigeria

Secret talks between federal and Biafran representatives may begin in London this week. At this stage, both sides regard any discussions as purely exploratory.

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4. Singapore

Ambassador Bruce reports that Lee Kuan Yew has been telling people in London that he is somewhat concerned about his US trip. He feels that he "might be put on the spot" to commit himself publicly on Vietnam to a greater degree than he would like.

5. Communist China

Peking has announced that Chinese scientists have just built a "huge transistorized universal computer." For its first performance, it has been programmed to sing "The East is Red, the Sun is Rising, China has produced a man called Mao Tse-tung." Later, the computer will be put to work on more mundane tasks such as the problems of the national economy and advanced weapons development.

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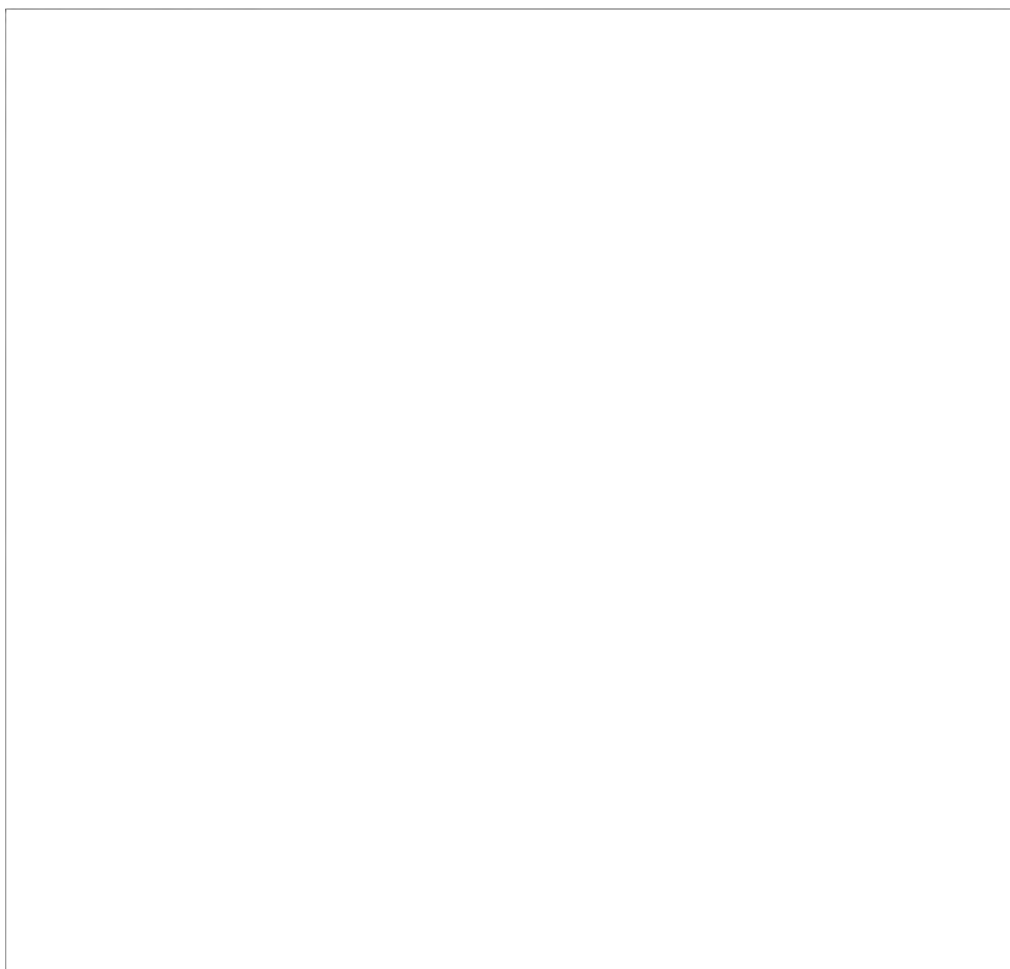
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SPECIAL DAILY REPORT ON NORTH VIETNAM

FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

Doumer Bridge:

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Photography of 4 October indicates that the repaired rail supports may not be as strong as the original trusswork but are probably adequate to carry light loads at reduced speeds.

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Return of French Dead: The French Foreign Ministry has informed the US Embassy in Paris that the remains of 120 French soldiers buried in North Vietnam will be dug up from two cemeteries in the city of Nam Dinh this week, and that a similar operation will take place at Hai Duong. Shipment of the remains to France will take place at the end of the year.

After considerable negotiation, France succeeded in conducting a similar evacuation in the spring of 1966. All in all, this is another small sign of improvement in Hanoi's relations with the French.

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Le Duan to Moscow: The US Embassy in Paris learned from the French Foreign Office on Friday that North Vietnamese Party Secretary Le Duan was currently in Peking and scheduled to travel from there to Moscow. The purpose of the trip is to discuss North Vietnam's representation at the Soviet 50th anniversary celebrations next month with Soviet and Chinese officials. The French speculated that Le Duan will tell the Soviets and Chinese that Hanoi will send a high-level delegation to the celebrations only if it can be assured that no Sino-Soviet recriminations will develop as occurred during the recent Chinese National Day festivities in Hanoi. Although this is the only report of such a trip thus far,

Hanoi's continuing efforts to maintain a balanced position in the Sino-Soviet controversy may well have prompted such advance preparations.

II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

Nothing significant to report.

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